

# **DISPOSITION OF REMAINS REPORT**

**U.S. Consulate General, Mumbai**

**November 2010**

## **PART I**

Name of Country: India

The U.S. Consulate General in Mumbai serves American citizens in the Indian states of Goa, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and the Union Territories of Daman and Diu, and Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

## **PART II**

U.S. Consulate General Address:

U.S. Consulate General, 78, Bhulabhai Desai Rd., Mumbai 400 026, India  
Switchboard : (022) 2363-3611

## **PART III**

### **(1) MAXIMUM PERIOD BEFORE BURIAL:**

Local regulations require that the deceased must be cremated, buried or embalmed within 24 hours of the death. Embalmed remains can be held in cold storage until further instructions are received from the next-of-kin regarding disposition.

There is no fee by the mortuary for storage of remains for a reasonable period of time in the government mortuary. Private mortuary charges are USD 35 per day.

### **(2) EMBALMING:**

Embalming is only required when remains are to be repatriated, not for local burial. Embalming facilities are available in government hospitals and private undertakers in Mumbai's consular district. Embalming procedures can only commence with permission from local authorities, which is obtained by the authorized undertaker. The local customs and health department officials are cooperative in such emergencies. Delays are encountered when death occurs outside of regular business hours, when the death occurs in a place other than a hospital or when there is no medical attendant present, but the U.S. Consulate General has not encountered problems related to delays beyond the mandated 24 hours. Although embalming is performed by a number of facilities, standards and materials used are often not to U.S. standards.

### **(3) CREMATION:**

In India open air cremation is common. The deceased is placed atop a funeral bier, usually adjacent to moving water, in full view of loved ones. Ashes may be disposed of immediately following cremation. The modern process of cremation occurs in a crematory (or crematorium), consisting of

one or more cremator furnaces or cremation retorts for the ashes. A crematorium may be part of chapel or a funeral home, or a service offered by a cemetery. Modern cremator fuels include natural gas and propane. These cremators have adjustable control systems that monitor the furnace during cremation. A cremation furnace is not designed to cremate more than one body at a time. Cremated remains are returned to the next-of-kin in a rectangular container, contained within a further cardboard box or in an urn, if the family had already purchased one. An official certificate of cremation prepared under the authority of the crematorium accompanies the remains. If the funeral director is authorized by the family to bury or submerge the remains a permit for the local disposition of remains must remain with the cremated remains. Regulations regarding this may vary with locality.

#### **(4) CASKETS AND CONTAINERS:**

When the body of the deceased person is to be transported out of the country, the body is first embalmed and prepared for shipment. The usual procedure is to place the embalmed remains in a zinc coffin within a wooden coffin, which is finally placed in a suitable packing case. The cost varies with the quality of material used. Export quality caskets and shipping containers, which meet the requirements, are available for shipment out of the country.

#### **(5) EXPORT OF REMAINS:**

Remains may be repatriated when fully embalmed and placed in a hermetically sealed container.

**Human remains: To export remains, the following documents are required:**

- (a) A death certificate or Post-mortem report (which does not have to show cause of death);
- (b) Embalming certificate issued by the doctor;
- (c) Export authorization issued by the Health Officer, Department of Health;
- (d) Consular Mortuary Certificate issued by the Consular Officer;
- (e) Affidavit by the undertaker attesting to contents, the embalming and the hermetical sealing of the casket.

**Human Ashes: To export ashes, the following documents are required:**

- (a) Cremation certificate issued by the crematorium;
- (b) Official death certificate
- (c) Consular mortuary certificate issued by the consular officer (required by the airlines).

#### **(6) COSTS:**

The estimated charges shown below are based on U.S. Embassy exchange rate of (US\$1=INR44). All costs are approximate and are based on quotations received from the undertaker.

### **Local burial in cemetery:**

Estimated local burial costs include land charges, a masonry grave liner, a coffin prepared to regulation specifications, legal documentation and undertaker fees. **\$810**

### **Cremation and local burial:**

Estimated cremation costs include transportation of remains to the crematorium facilities, land charges, the casket, use of a hearse, cremation/burial fees, funeral director's fees, the cemetery plot, and the container for ashes. **\$700**

### **Cremation and shipment of ashes by air to U.S.**

Estimated cost includes casket, use of a hearse, crematorium charges, container of ashes and undertaker fees. Air shipment charges for cremated ashes are not included; the cost is calculated as per airway bill and destination. **\$800**

Home delivery of ashes **\$1200**

### **Embalming and shipment of remains by air to the U.S.**

Price includes embalming, necessary packing cases (coffin Box, inner zinc box and outer packing case) sealing, labor, legal documentation, local transportation and charges of the undertaker. **\$1600**

In addition to the cost indicated above, the following are the air shipment estimates for 80 kilos from Mumbai to:

East Coast (New York)	\$2000
West Coast (Los Angeles)	\$3500

**NOTE:** All prices quoted above are estimated shipping costs only and may be subject to change. In case of deaths outside New Delhi there would be an additional cost of transporting the body from the place of death to Delhi.

### **(7) EXHUMATION:**

Bodies may be exhumed provided the required permits are obtained from the local magistrate. A statement is required to accompany the request for exhumation to indicate if the remains are being exhumed for reburial or cremation.

### **(8) Autopsy:**

In India, autopsies, also known as postmortems or postmortem examinations, may be performed at the request of the authorities in cases of unexplained and suspicious deaths or

where a physician did not attend the death. In other circumstances, post-mortem examination may be performed only with the consent of the deceased's family or with permission granted by the person himself before death. Generally, an autopsy is only done when there is some cause of doubt as to the cause of death, although the family of the deceased can always request an autopsy even if the hospital doesn't think it necessary. The time taken to establish the medical cause of death may take up to 26 weeks and sometimes longer.

**Name and address of Undertakers:**

**Mumbai**

Mr. Solomon F. Sopher  
Chairman  
Bombay Jewish Burial Ground  
Office At: Sir Jacob Sasson Charity Trust  
C/o Keneseth Eliyahoo Synagogue Chambers  
55, Dr. V. B. Gandhi Marg, Fort  
Mumbai 400 023  
Tel: 22831502 (O)

Danny Michael Pinto  
13, Samrat Building  
Opp. Victoria Church  
L. J. Road, Mahim  
Mumbai 400016  
Tel: 24308569 and 24373933  
Fax: 24312140  
Cell: 9821043009 – Margret Pinto  
Cell: 33906572 - Danny Pinto  
Cell: 9821145935 – Paul  
Email: [mprepatriations@yahoo.com](mailto:mprepatriations@yahoo.com)

Mr. Neville Joseph Sequeira Cell: 9819685037  
Manager  
David Undertaker  
3, Muna Villa, Gabriel Road, Mahim  
Mumbai 400 016  
Tel: 65825055  
Cell: 9820248466 and 9820363144/9819685037 Direct  
Email: [davidundertaker@rediff\\_mail.com](mailto:davidundertaker@rediff_mail.com)  
Ambulance: 9324624196

Mr. Elroy Noronha  
Funeral Director  
Indian Funeral Service  
33/3, Jawahar Nagar, Road No. 4  
Opp. BMC Garden, Goregaon (W)  
Mumbai 400062  
Tel: 28744767 (O) 28623758 ®  
Cell: 9820004876

Mr. John Pinto, Director  
John Pinto International Pvt. Ltd.  
28 Readymoney Building  
7 Clare Road, Byculla  
Mumbai 400 008  
Tel: 23081137, 23080781, 23071927  
Fax: 23076190  
Res: 23096482, 23097282  
Cell: 9869433609, 9820239409  
Email: [johnpintointl@yahoo.co.in](mailto:johnpintointl@yahoo.co.in)

Mr. Sunil Colaco  
Lonica  
56-A, Misquita Street  
Opp. Railway Crossing  
Vile Parle (E)  
Mumbai 400 057  
Tel: 26131245, 65006674, 69566251  
Cell: 9821182100, 9223243778

Mr. Manjunath M. Naik  
Proprietor  
Mr. Danny Dickson Mascarenhas  
Manager  
Holy Cross Undertaker & Sculptor  
39-A, Chimbai Road, Near St. Andrew's Church  
Bandra West  
Mumbai 400050  
Tel: 26439157 or 26414102  
Cell: 9821647790

Mr. Mohammed A. Khan, Proprietor  
Khan Motors  
232 Nargis Dutt Nagar  
Bandra Reclamation  
Bandra (W)  
Mumbai 400050  
Tel: 26450776  
Cell: 9821012876 or 9892100786

Mr. Tony E. Pereira  
T.L. Pereira & Sons Undertakers  
Choubal House, Opp. St. John The Baptist Church  
Side of Thane Janta Sahakari Bank  
Thane West 400 061  
Tel: 91-22-25349088, 25379088, 25389088  
Fax: 91-22-25386885  
Cell: 9819110709  
Email: [t.l.pereira06@gmail.com](mailto:t.l.pereira06@gmail.com)  
Also does medical evacuation

### Goa

Ms. Gladys Sequeira Cell: 0-9822122003  
Mr. Carlton Fernandes Cell: 0-9822136397  
Ms. Hema Narvekar Cell: 0-9423835057  
Goan Rites, Shop No. 5, Rosary Apartments  
Near Rosary School, Miramar  
Panaji, Goa 403 001  
Tel: (0832) 2462630 or (0832) 6452490  
Res: (0832) 2463259  
Telefax: (0832) 2463482 or (0832) 2463602  
Email: [goanrites@gmail.com](mailto:goanrites@gmail.com)

Pune

Mr. Mario Fernandes  
Ferns Undertaker  
Flat No. 317, C – Wing  
Aster Building, Raheja Gardens  
Wanowrie  
Pune 411 040

Works

955, Dastur Meher Road  
Camp  
Pune 411 001  
Cell: 0-9822117972  
Cell: 0-9372078861  
Cell: 0-9371466843

IATA Agents for repatriation of remains

Mumbai

Mr. C. I. Gilson  
Skyline Triumph  
Sahar Cargo Complex  
Jayant Apartments D Wing, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor 201  
Andheri East  
Mumbai 400099  
Tel: (022) 28213374 or 28213375  
Fax: (022) 28215282

Mr. Nazim Sambul  
Challenge Logistics Pvt. Ltd.  
The Avenue 804/805  
International Airport Road  
Opp. The Leela, Andheri (East)  
Mumbai 400 069  
Tel: (022) 28237914 or 28237915  
Fax: (022) 28238171

Ahmedabad

Challenge Logistics Pvt. Ltd.  
B/422-23-24, Supath-II  
Opp. Old Vadaj Bus Stop, Ashram Road  
Ahmedabad 380 014  
Tel: (079) 27560419 or 27560982  
Fax: (079) 27560981

Updated  
DVimadalal  
November 19, 2010